

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF GREENSBORO, N. C.

SPECIAL MEETING:

23 AUGUST 2001

Pursuant to Council action at the regular meeting of 17 July 2001, the City Council of the City of Greensboro met in special session in City Council District Three at 6:00 p.m. on the above date at the Natural Science Center, Smithsonian Room, 4301 Lawndale Drive, Greensboro, NC, with the following members present: Mayor Pro Tempore Yvonne J. Johnson, presiding; Councilmembers Claudette Burroughs-White, Sandra G. Carmany, Robert V. Perkins, Thomas M. Phillips, Donald R. Vaughan and Nancy Vaughan. Absent: Mayor Keith A. Holliday and Earl F. Jones, excused by action of Council. Councilmember Jones entered later in the meeting. Also present were J. Edward Kitchen, City Manager; Linda A. Miles, City Attorney and Juanita F. Cooper, City Clerk.

The Mayor Pro Tem explained the special procedures for conduct of the District Three Council meeting. She emphasized that the purpose of this meeting was for Council to listen to citizens' issues and concerns related to this specific Council District.

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Marc Isaacson, Chairperson of the Natural Science Center Board of Trustees, welcomed the City Council, City staff and citizens to the facility. He also recognized the Center's volunteers who were present at the meeting and spoke to the programs made possible by this type of volunteerism.

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After a moment of silence, Councilmember Perkins, District Three Council representative, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted specific concerns and items of interest to District Three residents, and spoke to the City's strong commitment to the Natural Science Center.

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The City Manager recognized Cheryl Lilly, employee in the Organizational Development and Communications Department, who served as courier for the meeting.

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Keith Pugh, Facilities Engineering Division of the Engineering and Inspections Department provided a brief overview of Council District Three's Bond Projects. Council briefly discussed these projects.

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Ron Wilson, residing at 3303 Madison Avenue, expressed appreciation to Council for their efforts in the areas of Comprehensive Planning, water and sewer growth, and solutions for solid waste disposal. He encouraged Council to continue to address issues of importance to Greensboro.

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Bryce Cobia, residing at 5910 Tamannary Drive; Ronald O. Murphy, residing at 1002 Honeysuckle Drive and owner of the Air Harbor Airport; David Chesney, residing at 2203 Lane Road; and Robert Taylor, residing at 3726 Sage Drive; expressed concern with regard to the trees on City property located at the west end of the Air Harbor Airport which they believed created a safety hazard for pilots using this facility. Expressing concern with respect to a recent

airplane crash at this airport, Mr. Cobia stated that he believed these trees contributed to that crash and were a liability to the City.

After lengthy discussion, City Attorney Miles detailed her department's findings and efforts to work with Mr. Murphy to enable him to resolve this issue and address the concerns of the patrons at his airport. She stated City staff had requested that Mr. Murphy file a plan for an engineering solution, outlined the City process for review, and emphasized that the City could not present a plan for this purpose. The City Attorney advised the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had stated the City had no liability with respect to this matter.

The City Attorney and Allan Williams, Water Resources Department Director, stated that this property was located in the City's watershed critical area and reiterated that state mandated watershed requirements were very specific about what activities were or were not permitted in Watershed Tiers 1 and 2. Mr. Williams reviewed certain activities that would not be permitted on this property to address these citizens' concerns with the trees; he also stated that the airplane crash mentioned earlier had not occurred near the trees being discussed. The Manager advised that City staff could provide information regarding requirements and what would be acceptable to the City, but an airport representative would have to submit a plan for approval. After further discussion, it was determined that the Legal and Water Resources Departments would follow up on this issue.

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Councilmember Jones entered the meeting at 6:16 p.m. during the above discussion.

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Councilmember Johnson left the meeting at 6:37 p.m. during the above discussion. Councilmember D. Vaughan assumed the Chair.

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Anne Vaughan, residing at 108 South Aycock Street, requested the City's assistance in addressing the unsightliness of trash cans at 1400-1402 West Market Street at Aberdeen Terrace. She stated that the trash cans were never removed and were constantly overflowing.

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Kathryn R. Pike, residing at 2511 Fry Street, requested Council to use funds approved by voters for the Natural Science Center improvements and not for the Coliseum. She spoke to the need for funds to complete the Center's projects and improvements.

City Manager Kitchen responded that the money approved by voters for the Natural Science Center project would be used for that purpose. He explained that at issue were the private matching funds that were pledged as a part of the bond issue and taken to the voters. The City Manager advised that Natural Science Center advocates wanted to use a portion of the hotel/motel tax collected by the Greensboro Area Convention and Tourism Bureau as private matching funds. He further stated that this money was used to support existing debt at the Coliseum Complex for the expansion a number of years ago and that the funds allocated for that purpose were not sufficient to pay off the debt; he stated he had suggested that these funds be held for that purpose. After discussion, the City Attorney reiterated that private funds must be used as matching funds for the project.

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Councilmember Johnson re-entered the meeting at 6:42 p.m. during the above discussion and assumed the Chair.

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Brennan Munro, residing at 1201 Surry Drive, expressed appreciation to Council for their efforts to protect Greensboro's water resources. He offered his personal thoughts about the positive impact the proposed FedEx project

would have on Greensboro and the surrounding area and encouraged Council to support the facility. The City Manager advised that Council had unanimously endorsed by resolution the FedEx project and had allocated water and sewer service incentives to demonstrate support.

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Joe Domitrovits, residing at 1711 Dunleith Way, offered his personal thoughts and opinions with regard to life in other areas of the Country and to the transition and growth of Greensboro.

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Ken Eiler, residing at 319 Meadowbrook Terrace, spoke to his personal involvement with the Animal Discovery project at the Natural Science Center. He stated that he believed fund-raising efforts for this project would be successful.

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Citing problems with traffic signals that would not change until a car or truck had approached the light, Jody Miller, residing at 1903 Downing Street, requested City staff to adjust sensors at traffic signals so they would respond to motorcycles. Jim Westmoreland, Transportation Department Director, advised he would talk with Mr. Miller after the meeting.

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Councilmember D. Vaughan moved that the City Council adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jones and adopted unanimously by voice vote of Council.

THE CITY COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:03 P. M.

JUANITA F. COOPER
CITY CLERK

YVONNE J. JOHNSON
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

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